



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Pastor's
Corner

2nd SUNDAY in Ordinary Time

January 14th, 2007

The Real "Pursuit of Happyness!"

Dear Parishioners, St. Thomas Aquinas, A Dominican Friar who lived in the 13th century, reminds us that we all pursue *happyness*, of which God is its ultimate fulfillment for each one of us! Well, I thought it only proper to begin this New Year 2007 with some thoughts from the "real" Chris Gardner of "Pursuit of Happyness" fame as to what the pursuit of happiness/happyness truly means for him.

The following is an excerpt of an interview that *beliefnet.com* recently had with him: **Do you think successes like yours are rare in the world?** First of all, you have to define success. For me, it wasn't about the money. Money is the least significant aspect of wealth. My life story is really about...every parent who didn't have a parent and tried to give their child something that they did not have. And also, at the same time, it's about everyone who ever had a dream, and everybody was telling them no you can't do that, it won't happen. But they made it happen anyway. **What were some of the things that you imparted to your son along the way?** The most important...is that the most important thing about being a man is being responsible. And because I broke the cycle of men who are not there for their children, I'm going to have an influence on generations of my offspring that I probably will never meet. And that all started with me breaking the cycle here. **A lot of people are wondering, why is "happyness" spelled with a "y" in the title of the movie?** There was a place called "Happyness" that became very, very important to my son and I. They spelled happiness with a "y." It was Happyness Daycare Center. In the film and on the cover of the book, the Y is in a different color. I wanted that for a very particular reason because I want people to start thinking about, well, you and your happiness and what makes you happy... **What constitutes happiness for you and your family?** I am healthy. As a single parent with a lot of help, I've raised two children that have become fabulous, young people. And I am now in a position to do work that reflects my values that makes me happy. **Did your Christian principles help you to get to where you are now?** Oh, they still do. I was just at Church last Sunday. [My faith] is one of the strongest guiding forces in my life. **You always say your mother provided you with strong spiritual genetics early on. What were some of those things that she taught you?** My mom had too many of her own dreams denied, deferred, and destroyed. But she still instilled in me the idea that I could have dreams--and not just have dreams, but have the power and the responsibility to make them come true. And I am so thankful for that... Anything positive that I'm doing in my life now is directly attributed to my mom. **Now that you're a success, how has it influenced your faith? Are you stronger in your faith now?** Absolutely. I talk to God everyday, and I tell people sometimes [when] they want to ask me, "What's the secret?" and I tell them all, "Jesus loves me, he just likes you." **How do you get Jesus to love you instead of like you?** You have to talk to him everyday. And it's between you and him, and when it happens you're going to know. It's as simple as that--you'll just know...For the full interview, please go to: http://www.beliefnet.com/story/206/story_20658.html.
God Bless, Fr. Mark



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Jan. 14:** 2:00pm Couples for Christ (Church Basement)
- Mon. Jan. 15:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)
7:00pm Mary Help of Christians (Church)
- Tue. Jan. 16:** 12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)
1:30pm St. Mary's School Mass (church)
6:30pm Teen Prep (Rectory Basement)
6:30pm Elementary Prep (School)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
7:30pm PEC Meeting (Rectory Library)
- Wed. Jan. 17:** 6:30pm Mass followed by Adoration
6:30pm Elementary Prep (School)
6:45pm Gr.2 1st Reconciliation Parents (Gym)
7:00pm RCIA (Rectory Dining)
9:30pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Jan. 18:** 7:00pm Ballroom Dancing (School Gym)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
- Fri. Jan. 19:** 3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)
6:30pm Mass followed by Adoration
6:45pm Line Dancing (School Gym)
7:15pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
7:15pm Liturgy Committee (Rectory Library)
9:30pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Jan. 20:** 10:00am Legion of Mary (Rectory Basement)
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Basement)
- Sun. Jan. 21:** 2:00pm St. Michael's Liturgy (7451 Sussex Ave)

PLEASE SEE THE NOTICE BOARDS IN THE FOYER FOR MORE PARISH AND COMMUNITY NEWS

PLEASE: SWITCH OFF YOUR CELL PHONES BEFORE YOU ENTER THE CHURCH

CONGRATULATIONS & BLESSINGS !!

BAPTISMS

December 31, 2006

Michael James Manuel Agema, Vernon Jay Alagar Espiritu, Lona Rona Gold, Thirusanth Jegatheeswaran, Arun Nagaraj Jegatheeswaran, Mercyne Joseph, John Cedric Villanueva Maliban, Ashley Pearl Ng, Maya Margaret Braz Soteris, Katrina Michelle Warren

January 7, 2007

Beatriz Aure, Alanray Aaron Camacho, Trevor Maximilian, Zi Yui Chiu



PARISH / COMMUNITY EVENTS

PREP ANNOUNCEMENT

Grade 2 parents will have a meeting on **Wed. Jan. 17 from 6:45pm to 8pm** in the School Gym. Tuesday Grade 2s will come to PREP on Wednesday night, just for this week only.

YOUNG ADULTS EVENTS(ages 18+) :

Book Club Meeting Thu. Jan. 18, 7:30pm, Rectory Basement. We will be discussing the first portion of the book, "Search & Rescue" by Patrick Madrid! The book is about "winning souls to the Church right now... using prayer, friendship, and common sense".

Multicultural Social - Feast of Santo Niño (Baby Jesus)

Sat. Jan. 20, 4:15pm. Meet in the Church parking lot (for carpooling - the event will take place at Our Lady of Good Counsel School Gym (10460 - 139th Street, Surrey). Reception starts at 5:00pm; finishes at 12 am. Semi-formal Dinner & Dance. Entertainment & Games. Admission: FREE; Please r.s.v.p. us here at smyac_team@yahoo.ca by Thu Jan. 18 for carpooling purposes.

YOUTH MINISTRY EVENTS :

Monthly Open Gym

It's game time! Join us in our monthly Open Gym on **Sun. Jan. 21 from 2pm to 5pm** in the School Gym. Come and enjoy lots of games and sports on this fun day!



"Faith in Action"

St. Mary's Youth Ministry will have a faith and fun-filled night called **"Faith in Action"**. This event is open to youth in Grades 6 to 12. Do you want to know what this night is about? Join us in the Church Basement on **Fri. Jan. 26** from 6 - 9pm.

DEVELOPMENT & PEACE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

Share Lent Workshop. Canadian Mining Called to Account will be held for all parish and zone representatives and interested persons on **Sat. Jan. 20, 10am to 4pm** at St. Mary's (5251 Joyce Street, Vancouver) in the Church basement. Refreshments provided, bring a mug and bag lunch. Learn more about D & P and its work in promoting social justice, peace and development in the global south. All are welcome!

CHRISTOPHER LEADERSHIP COURSE

Public Speaking and Community Leadership Skills. This is a ten week course. Next courses start: **Sat. Feb.10** at St. Mary's Parish, Vancouver, and **Sat. Feb.17** at Our Lady of Good Council Parish in Surrey. To register / for further info, call Blair 604-540-1919 - Vancouver, or Robert 604-572-9731 - Surrey.

COMMUNITY NEWS

LITTLE FLOWER ACADEMY (Pvt. Catholic High School for girls)

Invites all prospective 2007-2008 Gr. 8 candidates and their families to an Open House on **Thu. Jan. 18**, in the School Gym, 7pm-8pm. The school entrance is located at 1625 Nanton Avenue, Vancouver. Registration packages for the Entrance Exam will be available. For more info call 604-738-9016 or visit our website: www.lfabc.org .

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Receptionist/Secretary, runs the Nortel Meridian main switchboard (20 offices) in the Archdiocesan Curia and provides general office support. Superior telephone communication skills required. Experience in keyboarding, proficient with Microsoft Office software. Deadline for applications is Jan. 19. Further details, including how to apply are available on the archdiocesan website: www.rcav.org .

HOW TO PRAY FOR YOUR SONS, DAUGHTERS, & LOVED ONES SEMINAR by Vernon Robertson

Have your loved ones stopped practicing the faith? Do they no longer believe in God? Then this seminar on **Jan. 20** (10:00 am-4:30 pm) at St. Ann's Parish, Abbotsford is for you. To pre-register for materials call Mena Beatch at 604-855-9701 or email varobertson@shaw.ca .

ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC SINGLES' CLUB AGM and Dance

Sat. Jan. 20 at Holy Family Parish Hall (4851 Beatrice St. Van). AGM at 6:30 pm, dance at 8:00 with Rick Leather. Tickets at the door. Members \$10, non-members \$13. Call Lina 604-433-0055.

DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICES-OLGCS VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Monday nights from Jan. 22 to Mar. 26, at St. Augustine's Parish (2028 W. 7th Ave. Van), 7-9 pm. For info or to register, call 604-640-7549/1-888-833-7733/604-708-8402.

NOTRE DAME REGIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE & INFORMATION MEETING

Tue. Jan. 23, 7pm to 9pm, 2855 Parker St. Vcr. All parents & students in Gr. 7 are invited to attend. Parents must pre-register their child at this Open House in order to write the Placement Test (fee: \$25.00 cash only). Gr. 8 Placement Test Thu. Feb. 22 at 12noon in the Auditorium. Parents please pick up students at 3pm. Selection preference must be given to students in our Region and selection is not based only on performance in the test. For more info call 604-255-5454 or email: juggiers@ndrs.org or visit www.ndrs.org .

COMMUNITY NEWS

DEVELOPMENT & PEACE COUNCIL MEETING

The Vanancouver Diocesan Council CCOOP, first council meeting of the year will be at 7:30pm on **Wed. Jan. 24** at St. Mary's (5251 Joyce Street, Vancouver) in the rectory basement.

DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICES-OLGCS Annual General Meeting

Jan. 25, 7:00pm @ Immaculate Conception, 8842 - 119th St. Delta. Guest Speaker: Shashi Assanand, Executive Director, Vancouver & Lower Mainland Multicultural Family Support Services.

NORTH SHORE CATHOLIC SEMINAR SERIES

Rights Talk, Rights Revolution & Catholic Teaching by Dr. David Klassen at Christ the Redeemer Parish (599 Keith Road, West Vancouver) on **Fri. Jan. 26**, 7:30-9:30pm. \$5.50 per person. For more info, contact 778.839.4884 or www.nscdg.ca .

TAIZE PRAYER NIGHT

St. Mark's College is hosting a Taizé Prayer Night. Join us for reflection through song, beauty, and prayer at St. Mark's College Chapel (5935 Iona Drive at UBC) on **Fri. Jan. 26**, 6-7pm.

REDEEMER PACIFIC COLLEGE PRESENTATIONS

Catholic author, broadcaster and speaker, Mark Shea (www.mark-shea.com) will give two talks: Behold Your Mother: Discovering the Blessed Virgin Mary: The story of how Mark Shea came to see that Catholic Marian theology is thoroughly biblical, refreshingly sane, and deeply satisfying to the soul. 101 reasons not to be Catholic: There are a million reasons not to be a Catholic and only one reason to be one. You be the judge. **Sat. Jan. 27**, 10am to 1pm at St. Nicholas Parish, 20675-87th Ave, Langley (Walnut Grove). Mass at 9am, registration 9:30. Tickets \$15 at the door. Call Redeemer Pacific College at 604.888.7727 for more info. or visit www.rpcollege.bc.ca .

2007 VANCOUVER ARCHDIOCESAN WINTER INSTITUTE

Sponsored by the Office of Religious Education at St. Monica's Parish (Richmond). Catechetical & adult faith formation courses for all interested adults. Courses include Basics of the Faith (Section A) and courses for catechists and teams in parish ministry for PREP, RCIA, and LWC. Also, Specialized Questions in Moral Theology will be offered by Father John Horgan. All are welcome at these one-day courses on **Sat. Jan. 27**, 10:00am-4:00pm. Pre-registration is required. For all course descriptions and registration, visit www.rcav.bc.ca/ore (click on Winter Institute) or call 604-683-0281.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

PART-TIME OFFICE ASSISTANT REQUIRED AT 150 ROBSON ST.

A part-time Office Assistant is needed for the Chancery Office to process marriage documents in compliance with canon law, perform centralized filing services for the Chancery Office, and other duties. Consideration will only be given to those applicants with demonstrated computer skills in Microsoft Office (specifically Access), the ability to type 40 wpm, & experience with office practices and procedures and e-mail. Some familiarity with canon law would be an asset. Deadline for applications is Jan. 26. Further details including how to apply are available on the Archdiocesan website (www.rcav.org).

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES

Mon. - Fri. 8:00am; Sat. 12:00 pm
Wed. & Fri. 6:30pm followed by Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament & Benediction at 9:30pm
Saturday 5:00pm (**Anticipation**)
Sunday 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 7:00pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 11:15-11:45am; 4:15-4:45pm;
Sunday 10:45-11:05am

(An appointment for reconciliation may be made at any time)

HOLY COMMUNION Available to shut-ins. Contact Parish Office.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

Thursday - 8:00am; Saturday - 12:00pm

FIRST FRIDAY

Adoration Throughout the day after Masses

Masses: 8:00am followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
6:30pm followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Benediction: 9:30pm

BAPTISM

To register your child, contact the Parish Office.

MARRIAGES

One of the couple must be a registered Catholic parishioner of St. Mary's. Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to your wedding date and prior to registering for the required diocesan Marriage Preparation Course.

RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. Contact the Parish Office.

PREP Religious education program for children attending public schools.

Coordinator: Eli Bautista Tuesday and Wednesday 6:30-8:00pm

ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (SMYAC)

Leaders: Jonquil Francis and Eileen Carlson

Contact: smyac_team@yahoo.ca Website: www.smyac.ca

YOUTH MINISTRY

E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com

Coordinator: Eli Bautista

Website: www.saintmarysyouth.com

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Kevin Smith (Principal)

K-Grade 7 (604) 437-1312 Fax (604) 437-1193 Website: <http://www.stmary.bc.ca>

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm

Pastor :

Fr. Pierre Leblond, OP

Assistant Pastor :

Fr. Mark Hoo, OP

Parish Ministries Coordinator :

Eli Bautista

Parish Office:

Margherita Bordignon / Ossie Fernandes